

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. No claims were amended. No new claims were added. Claims 8-11 and 18-27 were previously cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 1-7, 12-17 and 28-32 are now are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-5, 12, 13, 14, 28, 29 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Narayan, U.S. Patent No. 5,717,827 (“Narayan”) in view of Kochanski, et al. U.S. Published Application No. 2002/0103646 A1 (“Kochanski”).

Claim 1, in pertinent part, recites “receiving a request from a waveform synthesizer residing on a client for a diphone residual for a particular speech out; locating the requested diphone residual; extracting the located diphone residual from the set of diphone residuals; and supplying the diphone residual to the waveform synthesizer on the client to produce the particular speech output” (emphasis provided).

Narayan discloses “translating text in a computer system to synthesized speech; and more particularly to techniques used in such systems for storage and retrieval of speech data” (col. 1, lines 20-23). Although Narayan discloses a “text-to-speech system” it does not teach or reasonably suggest having a waveform synthesizer on a client and receiving a request from the client for a particular compressed diphone residual to generate a particular speech output, locating and extracting the diphone residual, and supplying the compressed diphone residual to the waveform synthesizer on the client, as recited by claim 1. Narayan does not teach or reasonably suggest having a waveform synthesizer on the client or using the client-based waveform synthesizer as recited by

claim 1.

Kochanski discloses “performing text-to-speech conversion in a client/server environment partitions an otherwise conventional text-to-speech conversion algorithm into two portions” (Abstract). Kochanski further discloses “the sequence of phonemes produced by text analysis module is provided . . . to a client device” (col. 3, paragraph 0030). Such sequence of phonemes is then used for speech synthesis (col. 3, paragraphs 0030-0031). Kochanski’s using of the sequence of phonemes is not the same as “receiving a request from a waveform synthesizer residing on a client for a diphone residual for a particular speech output; locating the requested diphone residual; extracting the located diphone residual . . . and supplying the diphone residual to the waveform synthesizer” as recited by claim 1 (emphasis provided). Kochanski does not teach or reasonably suggest receiving a request from a waveform synthesizer and, in response to the request, the requested diphone residual is located, extracted, and supplied, as recited by claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims.

With regard to claim 12 and 29, they contain limitations similar to those of claim 1 and accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 12 and 29 and their dependent claims.

Claims 6-7, 16-17 and 30-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Narayan in view of Yong, et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,867,814 (“Yong”).

Claims 6-7, 16-17 and 30-31 depend from one of independent claims 1, 12 and 29 and thus, contain the limitations of the claim from which they depend. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claims 6-7, 16-17 and 30-31.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

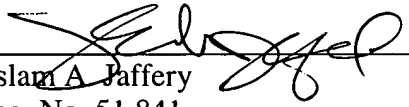
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: September 16, 2004


Aslam A. Jaffery
Reg. No. 51,841

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1030
(303) 740-1980